WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
Food Distribution Administration

Supply and Distribution of Upland Cotton

For Administrative Use Only October 28, 1943

For more than a year the Cotton and Fiber Branch of the Food Distribution Administration has prepared estimates of the supply and distribution of cotton by grades and staple lengths for administrative use. These estimates, as they pertain to the current season, require considerable forecasting. The forecasts are revised as often as additional information becomes available for revision. The basis for making these estimates is far from staisfactory and they consist largely of judgments based on information obtained from the Branch's field force and from trade sources. Moreover, changes in weather conditions obviously affect materially the quality of the crop, especially the grade.

Last season the estimates of the quality of the crop were fairly good, but the disappearance of the higher grades and long staples was smaller than expected and that of lower grades higher than forecasted. From the standpoint of insuring adequate supplies of needed cottons these misses were on the conservative side.

In view of the frequent government requests and obvious need for this type of information, estimates will be prepared periodically again this season for administrative use only. This is the second set of estimates for the current season and supersedes the one prepared, September 29, 1943.

The attached tables show the estimated supply and distribution of upland cotton for the 1941-42 and 1942-43 seasons, and forecasts for the 1943-44 season, as of October 28, 1943. The carry-over figures for 1941, 1942, and 1943 are based on the classification of a representative portion of stocks on hand August 1. Production figures in both 1941-42 and 1942-43 are based on the classification of a representative sample of ginnings from these two crops. Total disappearance in both 1941-42 and 1942-43 is computed by subtracting stocks at the end of the season from the season's supply (carry-over plus production). Exports in both of these seasons are based on the classification of cotton exported under lend-lease which accounted for the bulk of the total exports. Domestic consumption was computed by subtracting exports from total disappearance.

Quality data for the 1943-44 crop is based on the classification of representative samples of cotton ginned through October 17, the assumption of about average weather during the remainder of the season, and the Crop Reporting Board's estimate of production as of October 1 to running bales. This preliminary estimate plus the final estimate for the 1943 carry-over gives supply. Total disappearance is based on a forecast of domestic consumption and exports. It takes into account (1) prospective supplies of various grades and staples; (2) the current rate of mill consumption along with mill capacity and probable mill labor supply; (3) civilian, military, and lend-lease requirements for cotton textiles, in-so-far as information is available; (4) probable exports under lend-lease and exports to such countries as Canada, Spain, etc.

These forecasts are not based on any precise statistical measurements, but rather represent an attempt to provide the best possible appraisal of a complicated subject. It is assumed that the war will continue with both Germany and Japan throughout the 1943-44 season. The 1944 carry-over is computed by subtracting the 1943-44 forecast disappearance from the supply for that season. No allowance is made for cotton destroyed or for the "city crop" which partially offset each other.

All figures are in running bales. Bureau of the Census reports are the source of the totals for carry-over and production except as otherwise specified.

Grade designations in the tables include the following categories:

"Equivalent grade"	Extra White	White	Spotted	Tinged	Yellow Stained	Gray
"S.M. & higher"	G.M. S.M.	M.F. S.G.M. G.M. S.M.	G.M.	-	-	-
"Middling"	M.	M.	S.M.	G.M.	-	G.M.
"S.L.M."	S.L.M.	S.L.M.	M.	S.M.	G.M.	S.M.
"L.M. & lower"	L.M. S.G.O. G.O. B.G.	L.M. S.G.O. G.O. B.G.	S.L.M. L.M. B.G.	M. S.L.M. L.M. B.G.	S.M. M. B.G.	M. B.G.

Copies of the following publications along with supply and distribution tables for 1941-42, 1942-43, and 1943-44 are attached:

1. Quality of cotton in the United States carry-over, August 1, 1943, released September 24, 1943.

2. United States Cotton Quality Report for Ginnings through October 17, 1943, released October 25, 1943.

Table 1.- Supply and distribution of cotton, 1941-42

Grade and staple length	Supply			Distribution				Carry over pct. Dis.
	Carry-over 1941	Production	Total	Disappearance			Carry-over 1942	
				Domestic	Exports	Total		
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	Percent
S.M. & higher								
29/32" & shorter	287	50	337	155	18	173	164	95
15/16" - 1"	547	268	815	473	58	531	284	53
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	760	406	1,166	612	99	711	455	64
1-1/8" & longer	256	105	361	177	4	181	180	99
Total	1,850	829	2,679	1,417	179	1,596	1,083	68
Middling:								
29/32" & shorter	1,521	231	1,752	509	102	611	1,141	187
15/16" - 1"	1,905	1,565	3,470	2,108	309	2,417	1,053	44
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	1,194	1,746	2,940	1,947	130	2,077	863	42
1-1/8" & longer	317	326	643	346	7	353	290	82
Total	4,937	3,868	8,805	4,910	548	5,458	3,347	61
S.L.M.:								
29/32" & shorter	1,395	464	1,859	374	48	422	1,437	341
15/16" - 1"	1,762	1,368	3,130	1,604	180	1,784	1,346	75
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	657	1,475	2,132	1,286	87	1,373	759	55
1-1/8" & longer	129	252	381	239	5	244	137	56
Total	3,943	3,559	7,502	3,503	320	3,823	3,679	96
L.M. & lower:								
29/32" & shorter	357	920	1,277	392	-	392	885	226
15/16" - 1"	653	855	1,508	420	-	420	1,088	259
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	244	371	615	257	-	257	358	139
1-1/8" & longer	27	31	58	23	-	23	35	152
Total	1,281	2,177	3,458	1,092	-	1,092	2,366	217
All Grades:								
29/32" & shorter	3,560	1,665	5,225	1,430	168	1,598	3,627	227
15/16" - 1"	4,867	4,056	8,923	4,605	547	5,152	3,771	73
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	2,855	3,998	6,853	4,101	317	4,418	2,435	55
1-1/8" & longer	729	714	1,443	786	15	801	642	80
Total	12,011	10,433	22,444	10,922	1,047	11,969	10,475	88

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Table 2. Supply and distribution of cotton, 1942-43

Grade and Staple Length	Supply: Carry-over 1942	Supply: Production	Supply: Total	Distribution: Disappearance: Domestic	Distribution: Disappearance: Exports	Distribution: Disappearance: Total	Distribution: Carry-over 1943	Carry-over pct. Dis.
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	Percent
S.M. & higher								
29/32" & shorter	164	97	261	88	80	168	93	55
15/16" - 1"	284	216	500	212	127	339	161	47
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	455	497	952	519	61	580	372	64
1-1/8" & longer	180	123	303	116	4	120	183	153
Total	1,083	933	2,016	935	272	1,207	809	67
Middling								
29/32" & shorter	1,141	596	1,737	530	270	800	937	117
15/16" - 1"	1,053	1,788	2,841	1,746	254	2,000	841	42
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	863	2,118	2,981	1,596	312	1,908	1,073	56
1-1/8" & longer	290	371	661	340	14	354	307	87
Total	3,347	4,873	8,220	4,212	850	5,062	3,158	62
S.L.M.								
29/32" & shorter	1,437	790	2,227	592	47	639	1,588	249
15/16" - 1"	1,346	1,774	3,120	1,908	154	2,062	1,058	51
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	759	1,720	2,479	1,563	54	1,617	862	53
1-1/8" & longer	137	208	345	135	11	146	199	136
Total	3,679	4,492	8,171	4,198	266	4,464	3,707	83
L.M. & lower								
29/32" & shorter	885	716	1,601	433	-	433	1,168	270
15/16" - 1"	1,088	876	1,964	737	35	772	1,192	154
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	358	446	804	342	12	354	450	127
1-1/8" & longer	35	27	62	16	-	16	46	288
Total	2,366	2,065	4,431	1,528	47	1,575	2,856	181
All grades								
29/32" & shorter	3,627	2,199	5,826	1,643	397	2,040	3,786	186
15/16" - 1"	3,771	4,654	8,425	4,603	570	5,173	3,252	63
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	2,435	4,781	7,216	4,020	439	4,459	2,757	62
1-1/8" & longer	642	729	1,371	607	29	636	735	116
Total	10,475	12,363	22,838	10,873	1,435	12,308	10,530	86

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Table 3.- Supply and distribution of cotton, 1943-44
(Estimates for administrative use)
(Subject to semi-monthly revision)

Grade and staple length	Supply			Distribution				Carry-over pct. Dis.
	Carry-over 1943	Production	Total	Disappearance			Carry-over 1944	
				Domestic	Exports	Total		
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	Percent
S.M. & higher:								
29/32" & shorter	93	250	343	111	89	200	143	72
15/16" - 1"	161	660	821	458	142	600	221	37
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	372	490	862	482	68	550	312	57
1-1/8" & longer	183	175	358	146	4	150	208	139
Total	809	1,575	2,384	1,197	303	1,500	884	59
Middling:								
29/32" & shorter	937	500	1,437	374	301	675	762	113
15/16" - 1"	841	1,900	2,741	1,617	283	1,900	841	44
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	1,073	1,575	2,648	1,252	348	1,600	1,048	66
1-1/8" & longer	307	225	532	309	16	325	207	64
Total	3,158	4,200	7,358	3,552	948	4,500	2,858	64
S.L.M.:								
29/32" & shorter	1,588	668	2,256	698	52	750	1,506	201
15/16" - 1"	1,058	1,700	2,758	1,527	173	1,700	1,058	62
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	862	1,277	2,139	1,390	60	1,450	689	48
1-1/8" & longer	199	80	279	88	12	100	179	179
Total	3,707	3,725	7,432	3,703	297	4,000	3,432	86
L.M. & lower:								
29/32" & shorter	1,168	920	2,088	575	-	575	1,513	263
15/16" - 1"	1,192	515	1,707	661	39	700	1,007	144
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	450	200	650	287	13	300	350	117
1-1/8" & longer	46	20	66	25	-	25	41	164
Total	2,856	1,655	4,511	1,548	52	1,600	2,911	182
All Grades:								
29/32" & shorter	3,786	2,338	6,124	1,758	442	2,200	3,924	178
15/16" -1"	3,252	4,775	8,027	4,263	637	4,900	3,127	64
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	2,757	3,542	6,299	3,411	489	3,900	2,399	62
1-1/8" & longer	735	500	1,235	568	32	600	635	106
Total	10,530	11,155	21,685	10,000	1,600	11,600	10,085	87

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